

MINUTES
SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES COUNCIL
MARCH 13, 2007
TUCKAHOE AREA LIBRARY
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

PATTY GILBERTSON
CHAIR

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Debra Gardner, *Commission on the Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program*
Joe Battle, *Consumer/Advocate*
John Gibney, *Consumer/Advocate*
Curtis Coleburn, *Department of Alcohol Beverage Control Board*
Rudi Schuster, *Department of Criminal Justice Services*
Scott Reiner, *Department of Juvenile Justice Services*
Catherine Hancock, *Department of Medical Assistance Services*
Ken Batten, *Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services*
Hope Merrick, *Governor's Office for Substance Abuse Prevention*
Jennie Springs Amison, *Substance Abuse Certification Alliance of Virginia*
Freddie Simons, *Virginia Association of Community Services Boards/Prevention*
James. C. May PhD, *Virginia Association of Community Services Boards/SA Council*
William Williams, *Virginia Association of Community Services Boards/Treatment*
Janice Hicks, *Virginia Department of Health*
Zandra Relaford, *Virginia Department of Social Services*
Patty Gilbertson, *Virginia Drug Court Association*
Terri-Anne Brown, *Virginia Tobacco Settlement Foundation*

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Gene M. Johnson, *Department of Corrections*
Billy K. Cannady, Jr., *Department of Education*
D. B. Smit, *Department of Motor Vehicles*
Jennifer Johnson, *Virginia Association of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors*
Michael Fragala, *Virginia Association of Drug and Alcohol Programs*
Del. Clifford L. Athey, *Virginia House of Delegates*
Del. C. Todd Gilbert, *Virginia House of Delegates*
Del. David E. Poisson, *Virginia House of Delegates*
Del. Beverly J. Sherwood, *Virginia House of Delegates*
Sen. Mark R. Herring, *Virginia Senate*
Sen. W. Roscoe Reynolds, *Virginia Senate*
Sheriff Ryant L. Washington, *Virginia Sheriffs' Association*

GUESTS:

Mark Blackwell, *Substance Abuse and Addiction Recovery Alliance*
Angela Coleman, *Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program*
Lynne Cramer, *Substance Abuse and Addiction Recovery Alliance*

STAFF:

Lynette Bowser, *DMHMRSAS*
Mellie Randall, *DMHMRSAS*
Julie Truitt, *DMHMRSAS*
Ishneila Moore, *Office of Attorney General*

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10 a.m., followed by introductions of those in attendance.

II. INFLUENCING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY: COUNCIL'S POTENTIAL

Council Chair introduced Mr. Joe Flores, Legislative Fiscal Analyst for the Virginia State Finance Committee. Mr. Flores provides information to the Senate Finance Committee, Health and Human Resources Subcommittee, to assist the members' decision making. His work during the 2007 Session assisted the members of the Finance Committee to better understand the fiscal implications of substance abuse and helped win their eventual support for appropriating funds necessary to access expanded Medicaid coverage for the treatment of substance use disorders, as well as additional funding to expand treatment services.

The Chair recognized Mr. Flores for his support working with the General Assembly regarding the Medicaid initiative. Mr. Flores presented information to assist the Council with maintaining momentum with the General Assembly for the upcoming session.

Mr. Flores' presentation included an overview of the Senate's interest in substance use. Members of the Senate Finance Committee (subcommittee on Health and Human Resources) have had a long-standing interest in substance use issues. The senators recognize that there is a fundamental misunderstanding about the nature of addiction. Emerging research on addiction, fiscal consequences of untreated substance use, and potential cost offsets from expanding treatment were catalyst for addressing the issue this session. The Finance Committee deemed the expansion of substance abuse services as its signature health and human resources proposal this past session, and the senators submitted eight budget amendments related to the expansion of substance use services.

Mr. Flores made the following suggestions to the Council concerning its work with the General Assembly:

- develop meaningful outcome measures and demonstrate results;
- help implement the services that will be provided through DMAS and the CSBs;
- assist JLARC with substance use study resolutions passed by the House and Senate;
- identify gaps where resources might be directed in the future;
- ask to present emerging evidence on addiction to legislative commissions;

- arrange meetings with Senators and Delegates in an effort to elevate the Council's presence;
- move the Governor and other administration officials to be supportive of substance use initiatives;
- scrutinize the use of current funding (federal and state);
- ensure current spending is consistent with goals and purposes;
- measure services that are being delivered;
- persuade Governor to allocate new resources for substance abuse services in introduced budget, if unsuccessful, request support for initiatives through budget amendments.

The Chair and members of the Council expressed their appreciation to Mr. Flores for his interest and assistance.

III. REVIEW OF COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD SUBSTANCE ABUSE OUTPATIENT SERVICES FOR ADULTS – JAMES STEWART, OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL DMHMRSAS

The Chair introduced Mr. James Stewart, Inspector General.

Mr. Stewart stated that the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) is responsible for the following:

- inspecting, monitoring and reviewing the quality of services in state MH and MR facilities operated by DMHMRSAS, licensed public and private community services and Department of Corrections MH treatment unit; and
- communicating to the Governor, General Assembly and Joint Commission on Healthcare what is needed to make improvements.

Mr. Stewart discussed with the Council the results of the OIG's Review of CSB Substance Abuse Outpatient Services for Adults. Council members received copies of the report. Mr. Stewart reviewed how this topic was selected for review, the goals of the review, the input to project design, nine quality statements and the methodology and scope of the review.

Mr. Stewart went over the summary of findings/recommendations of the areas that were reviewed in the report, which included:

- comprehensive services, or lack of services
- timely access to services
- affordability
- consumer-centered services
- treatment environment
- helping relationship
- co-occurring disorders
- integration of SA & MH services
- case management
- staff qualifications
- service effectiveness

The OIG will complete a follow-up review on the status of the presented recommendations.

IV. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF NOVEMBER MEETING.

A motion was made by Freddie Simmons and seconded by Will Williams to approve the minutes of the November meeting. The motion was carried.

V. OLD BUSINESS

The Chair reiterated the announcement of the premiere of the HBO presentation on Addiction that was being held at the Byrd Theatre in Richmond that evening. Everyone was encouraged to attend.

REVIEW AND DISCUSS RETREAT SUMMARY:

The Chair thanked those who participated in the retreat. The retreat provided and avenue for discussion and was beneficial. Some suggested recommendations have been implemented, to include members meeting with Joe Flores from the Senate Finance Committee.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Angela Coleman informed the group that she has secured a Council presentation as an item on the agenda at the Judicial Conference in August. The Chair suggested that this item be further discussed on the Council's June agenda.

REPORT ON 2007 SESSION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY - STAFF

- The Chair stated that the Medicaid initiative was a success and there were other initiatives that were passed in the General Assembly.
- Ms. Randall gave the status of the recommendations that the Council had pending in this year's session. Dr. May asked that a letter be sent out to the agency heads in regards to SB1193 informing them what the happened with this piece of legislation.
- Mr. Batten presented and provided members with a handout on the status of 2007 legislation affecting substance use services that also included budget amendments from the conference report as well as failed budget amendments affecting substance use.
- The Chair stated that a letter would be sent to the legislative members of the Council thanking them for helping to get the Council recommendations before the legislature.
- The Chair also thanked SAARA representatives for their work during the session.
- Mr. Batten emphasized to the members that the time to be talking with legislators, about the concerns of the Council for the 2008 Session, is now.

TRANSFORMATION THE SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT SYSTEM – WILL WILLIAMS

- Mr. Williams advised that the SA Council of VACSB is beginning to talk about transformation, recovery, etc. The SA Council is developing a very deliberate and focused educational agenda with a specific focus on educating legislators who may not be familiar with substance abuse recovery. Mr. Williams suggested that Council appoint a small work group to do a white paper on what transformation and recovery means in the SA community and perhaps some sort of guiding principles for recovery. The following members volunteered to participate in this workgroup: Patty Gilbertson, Freddie Simons, Jim May, Angela Coleman, Zandra Relaford and Lynne Cramer. The group will meet electronically or by conference call and have a draft to share with the VACSB and the SASC by early May.
- Ms. Randall suggested that part of the work plan for the Council for the completion of its 2007 annual report includes completion of the draft white paper on transformation which would provide a blueprint for system change. The draft of the white paper would be reviewed and approved by the Council's next meeting in May. The Council could provide an opportunity for public comment by holding public hearings throughout the state. A committee would analyze and summarize the comments from the public hearings and to help draft the annual report. The draft of the annual report would be presented to Council for review and approval in September.

REVIEW OF SURVEY INSTRUMENT - STAFF

- Ms. Randall informed the Council that the *Survey of State Agencies and Organizations Concerning Services* has traditionally been conducted every other year. The survey is sent to all the agencies represented on the Council to collect qualitative measures. The 2005 survey will be updated and mailed to the respective agency representatives. The input from the survey will be incorporated in the Council's recommendations for the annual report and plan.
- A suggestion was made that question "C1" be reworded to include identified services and how those services are collaborative services. Ms. Merrick, Mr. Coleburn, Mr. Simons, and Ms. Brown will correspond to resolve this matter.

UPDATE-GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON HARDCORE DRUNK DRIVERS – ANGELA COLEMAN, VASAP

Ms. Coleman stated a focus of the task force was standardization of the screening and assessment instrument for hard-core drunk drivers. Representatives from the local ASAP offices participated in training at the Virginia Summer Institute for Addiction Studies in July 2006. This training covered the Simple Screening Instrument (SSI) and best practices for use with hard-core drunk drivers. Implementation of the SSI has been completed at all 24 ASAP offices. The next stage will address best practices in assessment for repeat offenders. Three regional trainings will begin in March for VASAP providers on best practices and the two assessment instruments for hard-core drunk drivers. Training will be offered at

the 2007 Virginia Summer Institute for Addiction Studies on the same subject matter. This training is coordinated by DMHMRSAS and the MidAtlantic Addiction Technology Transfer Center, and supported through a DMV Highway Safety Grant.

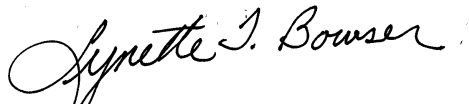
COUNCIL DIRECTION

The Council is in need of higher visibility. Suggestions included promoting the Council through press releases referencing scheduled meetings, establishing a specific time on the meeting agenda for public comment, and also partnering with other entities within communities in which meetings are held.

VII. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING DATE: MAY 2007

The next scheduled meeting is May 15, 2007. Council support staff will make arrangements for the Loudoun County area and information will be disseminated.

Respectfully submitted,



Lynette T. Bowser